Claims:

1. A method for regulating plant growth characterised in that the activity of a brassinosteroid specific glycosyltransferase is influenced.

PCT/EP2005/001457

- 2. A method according to claim 1, characterised in that plant growth is reduced by enhancing the expression of the brassinosteroid specific glycosyltransferase.
- 3. A method according to claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the method comprises functionally introducing in trans into a plant a heterologous glycosyltransferase and/or a heterologous expression regulating element for a glycosyltransferase.
- 4. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 3, characterised in that the brassinosteroid specific glycosyltransferase is a brassinosteroid specific glucosyltransferase, preferably an UDP-glucosyltransferase corresponding to subfamily 73C of Arabidopsis thaliana, especially UDP-glucosyltransferase 73C6, 73C5 and 73C4.
- 5. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 4, characterised in that the method comprises introducing a tissue specific promoter for the brassinosteroid specific glycosyltransferase, especially a stem specific promoter, into a plant.
- 6. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 5, characterised in that the plant is selected from the group containing Arabidopsis, rice, barley, wheat, tobacco, maize, sorghum, tomato, sun flower, fruit trees, ornamental plants, forest trees and agricultural plants, especially flowery plants, bonsai shrubs.
- 7. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 6, characterised in that the brassinosteroid specific glycosyltransferase is a glycosyltransferase being specific for campesterol, campestanol, brassinolide, stigmasterol, teasterone, methyldolichosterone, epibrassinolide, epicastasterone.
- 8. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 7, character-

ised in that plant growth is reduced by glucosylation of the C2-

WO 2005/080576

OH, C_3 -OH, C_{23} -OH, C_{25} -OH, C_{26} -OH and/or C_{27} -OH of brassinosteroids by brassinosteroid specific glucosyltransferases.

- 26 -

PCT/EP2005/001457

- 9. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 8 characterised in that the method comprises introducing an inducible promoter for the brassinosteroid specific glycosyltransferase, preferable a tissue specific promoter, especially a stem specific promoter, into a plant.
- A recombinant cell comprising a heterologous glucosyltransferase or an enhanced expression activity of an endogenous glucosyltransferase due to transgenic expression regulating elements.
- A cell according to claim 10, characterised in that it is a plant cell or a yeast cell.
- 12. A cell according to claim 10 or 11, characterised in that it comprises a tissue specific, especially a stem specific promoter.
- Use of a heterologous glycosyltransferase for the production of a plant cell for regulating plant growth, especially for the production of a plant cell with reduced growth.
- Method for producing glycosylated brassinosteroids characterised in that a brassinosteroid is contacted in vivo or in vitro by a glycosyltransferase in the presence of an activated glucose.